

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-25, 27-39, 67-70 and 72-80 are pending in the present application. Claims 26, 40-66 and 71 were previously withdrawn from consideration and are canceled herein. Claims 1, 20, 31, 67 and 80 are amended. Claims 2, 3, 25, 27, and 70 are canceled. Claim 81 is added. Examination and reconsideration of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

To expedite prosecution of the present application, Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of dependent claims 2 and 3. Applicants believe that claim 1 is now allowable. Claims 20, 31, 67 and 80 have also been amended to incorporate similar limitations.

Applicants herein reserve the right to pursue the subject matter of the original scope of claims 1, 20, 31, 67 and 80 in a later filed continuation or continuation-in-part application.

To more fully claim the novel aspects of the present invention, Applicants have added claim 81. Claim 81 differs from claim 80 in that it adds in the element "distally beyond the guidewire" and that "the drive shaft may be oscillated to create a path through the occlusive or stenotic material." Support for such elements may be found throughout the originally filed specification.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 206-467-9600.

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Respectfully submitted,
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